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## **Occupational Therapy for a Child with Food Protein Induced Enterocolitis in an Outpatient Multidisciplinary Intensive Feeding Program: A Case Report**

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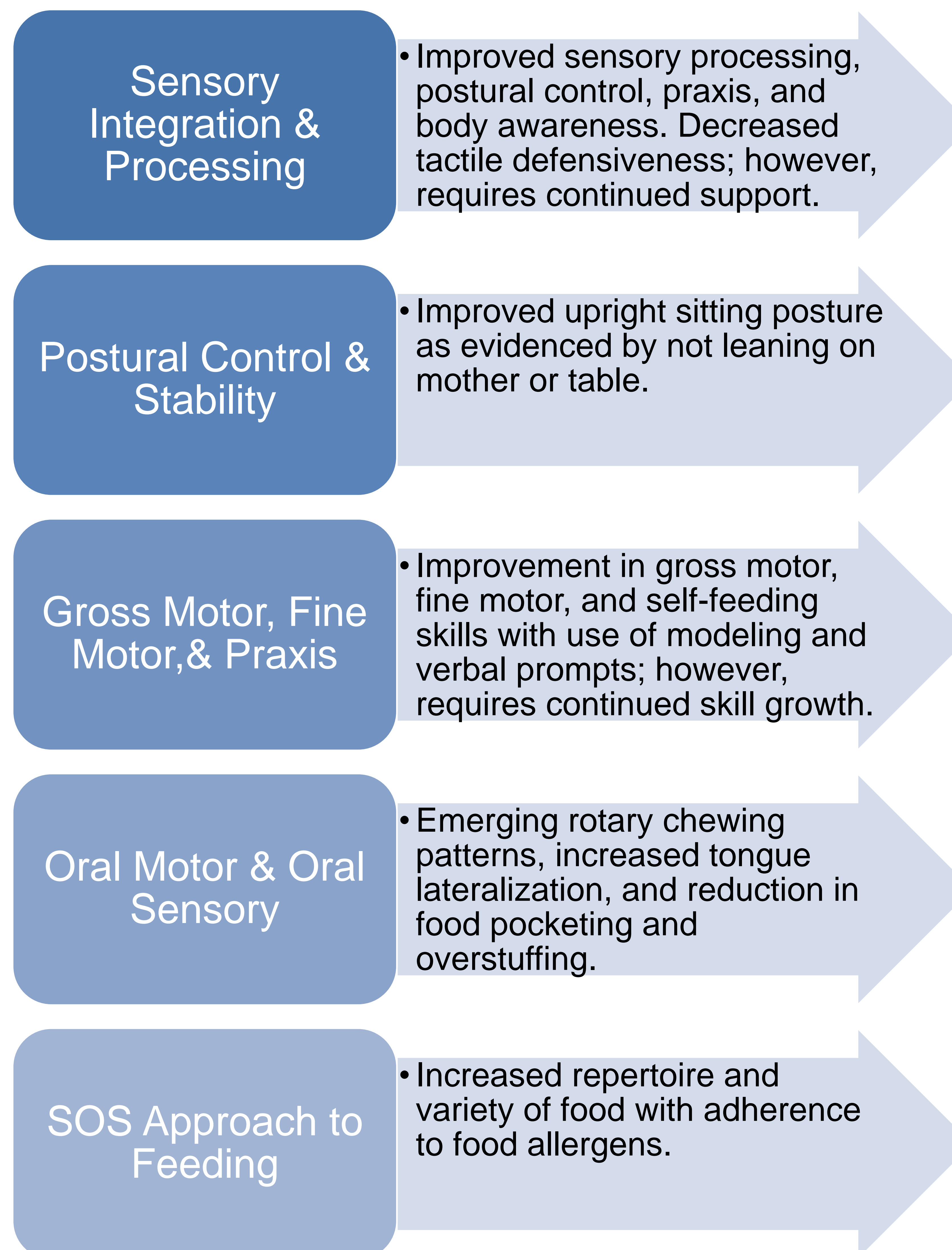
### Background

- Food protein induced enterocolitis (FPIES), is a rare non-IgE-mediated food allergy affecting 0.28% of infants and children in the United States.
- Up to 40% of children with IgE, mixed, and non-IgE food allergies have feeding difficulties.
- Multidisciplinary intensive feeding therapy programs have been effective in successfully decreasing a variety of feeding difficulties for children.
- Limited evidence showcasing the effectiveness and importance of occupational therapy interventions in treating and managing feeding difficulties for children with FPIES.
- The purpose of this case report is to establish the importance of occupational therapy in an outpatient multidisciplinary intensive feeding therapy program and describe occupational therapy-based interventions to treat and manage feeding difficulties and poor sensory processing for a child with FPIES.

### Case Description

- T.S. is a 2-year 9-month-old child who was referred to a multidisciplinary intensive feeding therapy program due to feeding disturbances based on the child's diagnosis of FPIES and restricted food repertoire affecting her feeding development and oral motor skills.
- Recommended intensive feeding therapy with an emphasis on occupational therapy-based feeding therapy due to limited volume of foods consumed, delayed oral motor skills and coordination for eating, poor endurance for self-feeding secondary to low muscle tone, sensory processing difficulties, and overall delayed development.

### Interventions and Results



### Discussion

- Showcases the significance of occupational therapy in a multidisciplinary intensive feeding therapy program and the interventions used to contribute to the child's progress in occupational performance and participation.
- Demonstrates the effectiveness of occupational therapy-based interventions to treat and manage a child with FPIES with a variety of feeding difficulties and poor sensory modulation with interventions focusing on postural control, praxis, self-feeding skills, oral motor skills, and sensory processing.

### Implications for Occupational Therapy

- Occupational therapists have the education, knowledge, and skill to be essential team members of a multidisciplinary intensive feeding therapy program.
- Occupational therapy-based interventions help address and progress a child's feeding skills and overall development.
- Further research with a larger population and longitudinal studies is required to determine the effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions.
- Development of a standardized assessment to objectively measure feeding and eating skills based on posture, oral motor, oral sensory, and self-feeding skills.

### References

- References available upon request.